

## **Dental Hygienists.**

RELATES TO:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS XXX.XXX requires the board to promulgate administrative regulations relating to requirements and procedures for licensure, renewal and licensure by credentials for dental hygienists. This administrative regulation establishes those requirements and procedures.

Section 1. General Licensure Requirements. An applicant desiring licensure in the Commonwealth shall at a minimum:

- (1) Understand, read, speak, and write the English language with a comprehension and performance level equal to at least the ninth grade of education, otherwise known as Level 4, verified by testing as necessary;
- (2) Submit a completed and signed "Application for Dental Hygiene Licensure";
- (3) Pay the fee required by administrative regulation;
- (4) Not be currently subject to disciplinary action pursuant to KRS Chapter XXX which would prevent licensure;
- (5) Complete the requirements of KRS 214.615 (i);
- (6) Complete and pass the jurisprudence exam;
- (7) Have and maintain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);
- (8) Submit to a criminal background check through the Administrative Office of the Courts in Kentucky, from the state(s) of residence for the last 5 years, or by fingerprint;
- (9) Provide verification of any license to practice dentistry held in any state or jurisdiction;
- (10) Be a graduate of a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited dental hygiene school or college or dental hygiene department of a university;
- (11) Have successfully completed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (written theoretical) conducted by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations. An applicant shall be required to complete the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination within twenty-four (24) months of his date of graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program; and
- (12) Provide an explanation for any positive returns on a query of the National Practitioners Database Reporting.

Section 2. Licensure by Examination Requirements.

- (1) An individual desiring initial licensure as a dental hygienist by examination within (2) two years after fulfilling all of the requirements of his dental hygiene education shall:
  - (a) Complete all of the requirements listed in section (1) of this administrative regulation; and
  - (b) Have successfully completed the national or regional clinical examination adopted for use by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry which requires a candidate to obtain a score of seventy-five (75) percent or higher on each individual section within three (3) tries.

- (2) An applicant who has taken the clinical examination three (3) times and failed to achieve a passing score shall not be allowed to sit for the examination again until he has completed and passed a remediation plan approved by the board.
- (3) An applicant who has failed to pass the National Board examination within twenty-four (24) months of his date of graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program shall not be allowed to retake the examination until he has completed and passed a remediation plan approved by the board.
- (4) An applicant who has not been licensed in another jurisdiction within two years of his date of graduation shall complete and pass a refresher course approved by the board.

Section 3. Licensure by Credentials Requirements. An individual desiring initial licensure as a dental hygienist by credentials shall:

- (1) Complete all of the requirements listed in section (1) of this administrative regulation;
- (2) Provide proof of having passed a state, regional, or national clinical exam adopted for use by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry with a score of seventy-five (75) percent or higher on each individual section; and
- (3) Provide proof that, for the five (5) consecutive years immediately preceding the filing of his application, he has been engaged in the active practice of dental hygiene, provided that he was legally authorized to practice dental hygiene in a state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia and further provided that his qualifications for such authorization were equal to or higher than those of this state. Actively engaging in the teaching of dental hygiene shall be considered actively engaged in the practice of dental hygiene.

Section 4. Charity Limited Licenses.

- (1) An individual desiring a charity limited license shall:
  - (a) Understand, read, speak, and write the English language with a comprehension and performance level equal to at least the ninth grade of education, otherwise known as Level 4, verified by testing as necessary;
  - (b) Submit a completed and signed "Application for Dental Hygiene Licensure";
  - (c) Not be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to KRS XXX.XXX which would prevent licensure;
  - (d) Have a license to practice dental hygiene in good standing in another state; and
  - (e) Provide an explanation for any positive returns on a query of the National Practitioners Database Reporting.
- (2) Individuals licensed under this section shall:
  - (a) Work only with charitable entities registered with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services who have met the regulatory requirements of the board;
  - (b) Only perform procedures typically performed which must be completed within the duration of the charity event;
  - (c) Be eligible for the provisions of medical malpractice insurance procured under KRS 304.40-075;
  - (d) Perform these duties without expectation of compensation or charge to the individual, and without payment or reimbursement by any governmental agency or insurer;

- (e) Have a charity limited license which will be good for two (2) years and expire during the regular dental hygiene renewal cycle; and
- (f) Not perform work in the Commonwealth for more than seven (7) consecutive days.

Section 5. Minimum CE Requirements.

Section 6. Renewal Requirements. An individual desiring renewal of an active dental hygiene license shall:

- (1) Submit a completed and signed “Application for Renewal of Dental Hygiene Licensure”;
- (2) Pay the fee required by administrative regulation;
- (3) Maintain without lapse CPR certification;
- (4) Meet the continuing education requirements as outlined in Section 5 of this administrative regulation; and
- (5) Complete and pass the jurisprudence examination.

Section 7. Retirement of a License.

- (1) An individual desiring retirement of a dental hygiene license shall submit a completed and signed “Retirement of License Form”, which must be postmarked by December 31 of the year his license expires.
- (2) Upon receipt of this form, the board will send written confirmation of retirement to the last known address of the licensee.
- (3) No individual may retire a license that has pending disciplinary action against it.

Section 8. Reinstatement of a License.

- (1) An individual desiring reinstatement of a retired dental hygiene license shall:
  - (a) Submit a signed and completed “Application to Reinstate a Dental Hygiene License”;
  - (b) Pay the fee required by administrative regulation;
  - (c) Show proof of being certified in CPR;
  - (d) Provide current verification of any license to practice dental hygiene held in any state or jurisdiction;
  - (e) Submit to a criminal background check through the Administrative Office of the Courts in Kentucky, from the state(s) of residence for the last 5 years, or by fingerprint; and
  - (f) Provide an explanation for any positive returns on a query of the National Practitioners Database Reporting.
- (2) If an individual is reinstating a license that was retired within the two (2) consecutive years immediately preceding the filing of his application, he shall provide proof of having met the continuing education requirements as outlined in Section 5 of this administrative regulation within those two (2) years.
- (3) If the applicant has not actively practiced dental hygiene in the two (2) consecutive years immediately preceding the filing of his application, he shall complete and pass a refresher course approved by the board.

(4) If a license is reinstated in the first year of a renewal biennium, the licensee shall complete all of the continuing education requirements as outlined in Section 5 of this administrative regulation prior to the renewal of his license.

(5) If a license is reinstated in the second year of a renewal biennium, the licensee shall complete one half of the hours as outlined in Section 5 of this administrative regulation prior to the renewal of his license.

Section 9. Verification of Licensure. An individual desiring verification of a dental hygiene license shall:

- (1) Submit a signed and completed “Verification of Licensure Form”; and
- (2) Pay the fee required by administrative regulation.

Section 10. Duplicate Licenses. An individual desiring a duplicate dental hygiene license shall:

- (1) Submit a signed and completed “Duplicate License Request Form”; and
- (2) Pay the fee required by administrative regulation.

Section 11. Reciprocity. Any state which grants direct reciprocity of a Kentucky licensed dental hygienist shall enjoy the same privilege for its licensed dental hygienists.

Section 12. Anesthesia Permits.

Section 13. General Supervision.

Section 14. Public Health Hygiene.